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PROFESSOR JOSIAH KEEP.¹

BY WM. H. DALL.

Professor Keep, whose death, July 27th last, at Pacific Grove, California, was recently announced, was born in Paxton, Mass., in 1849, and was a graduate of Leicester Academy and Amherst College (1874), taking his Master's degree as a postgraduate student in 1877. In that year he married Amelia Caroline Holman, of Leicester, Mass., and went to California. There he taught in the Golden Gate Academy and the Alameda High School, being principal of the latter from 1881 to 1885. In 1885 he became Professor of the Natural Sciences in Mills College, which, from small beginnings as a private seminary for girls, has through the efforts and generosity of its founders developed into a well-equipped and charmingly situated college, the Wellesley of the Pacific Coast.

Here Professor Keep found his life-work as teacher and coadjutor with the still surviving founder, Mrs. Mills, and saw the branches of science originally confided to him alone, by degrees represented in the teaching force by a number of competent instructors, while he retained for himself the subjects of geology and astronomy.

With the wide general knowledge required by his field of work, it was of course impossible for him to be a specialist in any, but his deep interest had been aroused in the study of the mollusca in which the Pacific Coast is so rich. Between 1881 and 1911 he published a series of what might be called primers of west-coast shells, illustrated with figures, enabling the beginner to gain a preliminary

¹ From *Science*, October, 1911.

knowledge of the attractive shells of California. To these little books we may fairly ascribe much of the wide-spread interest which is to-day found among Californians and which by the coöperation of amateurs with specialists, has immensely increased our knowledge of the Pacific Coast fauna.

The last of these manuals was published only shortly before his death. Professor Keep was one of the founders of the Chautauqua Assembly which meets at Pacific Grove, and frequently lectured to its classes on his favorite subject. He was also one of the most earnest supporters of the Museum and Library at Pacific Grove.

Modest, courteous, indefatigable and enthusiastic, he was primarily a teacher and organizer; beloved by his classes and appreciated by those reached through his books and so led to the study of nature. In his unassuming way he has done a good work and found his reward in doing it. He leaves a widow, son and daughter to mourn his loss.

ADDITIONAL NOTES ON THE LOCOMOTIVE DISK OF STYLOMMATOPHORA.

BY V. STERKI.¹

During the last years some additional observations on this subject were made. Nearly all of the species mentioned in the former article have been seen again and the data were verified, and some others were examined. To repeat, there are marked differences in this respect, between species, genera and groups apparently or really closely related, especially among the *Zonitidæ*, and these features have probably much significance in classification, in connection with the formation of the lateral (marginal) longitudinal groove or grooves, on the upper surface of the foot (pedal grooves), and possibly the presence or absence of the caudal mucus gland, as pointed out, *e. g.*, by Dr. Pilsbry.² More observations and morphological and anatomical examination are needed on the subject.

Zonitidæ.

Omphalina fuliginosa (Griff.). The median zone was seen (or

¹ See article in THE NAUTILUS, XXII, p. 49, 1908.

² In the generic position of *Putulastra* * * * with suggestions of a classification of the American *Zonitidæ*, THE NAUTILUS, IX, p. 19.